



2004-05 School Accountability Report Card Template with Data Released

On November 4, 2005, the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) template with data that can be downloaded to prepare SARCs for publication in the 2005-06 school year was made available on the California Department of Education (CDE) Web site. The 2004-05 SARC template with data can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/> at the "SARC Templates" link.

In addition, you will also find at the same Web site a Data Element Definitions and Sources document, Summary of Changes documents for both the template and the data definitions, detailed instructions for creating a SARC template with data, a Frequently Asked Questions document, and many other helpful resources.

The data used in the SARC template are current as of November 2, 2005. Data may be revised by local educational agencies (LEAs) for various reasons, including corrections to demographic data submitted as part of the state-mandated testing programs or appeals related to federal Adequate Yearly Progress determinations and resulting changes to Program Improvement status.

When properly completed, the State Board of Education (SBE)-approved SARC template meets all state and federal accountability reporting requirements. In particular, the template incorporates all LEA reporting elements into each school report card in a manner that meets all requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001. An LEA may choose to develop and use an alternative reporting format, as long as the report card includes all required data elements and uses SBE-approved definitions.

Implementation Plan for Recently Enacted Legislation Affecting the SARC

As reported in the October 2005 edition of the [SARCnews](#), the Governor signed Senate Bill 687 (Simitan) on September 28, 2005. This measure, which will take effect on January 1, 2006, expands the salaries and expenditures areas of the SARC. The bill also contains the provisions of Assembly Bill 1609 (Liu), which the Governor signed on September 27, 2005. These provisions, which also will take effect on January 1, 2006, expand the career technical education area of the SARC. Finally,

SB 687 adds an additional requirement related to the SARC's textbook sufficiency reporting element.

The CDE is currently studying the new SARC requirements and discussing how best to implement them with internal subject area experts, legislative staff, LEA officials, and other individuals who have an interest in the affected areas. Following the completion of these discussions, the CDE plans to provide guidance to LEAs in complying with the new reporting requirements both in a future newsletter edition and on the CDE Web site. In addition, the CDE plans to present recommended SARC template and data definition changes to the SBE in May 2006.

SARC Question of the Month

The following is the "SARC Question of the Month" along with its answer:

Q. How many reporting elements are contained in the current SARC template?

A. The 2004-05 SARC template contains a total of 54 reporting elements. Please note that a particular school report card may not be required to include all these elements.

If you have questions or comments about the topics covered in this newsletter, or suggestions for topics for a future newsletter, please contact us as indicated below.

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